

HPSCI

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Jim Bush, HPSCI staff, on House Appropriations Committee Staff Assistants

On Friday, 15 September 1978, I called Jim Bush, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) staff, and asked him if he had ever heard of Henry Barbour who is listed as a staff assistant on the House Appropriations Committee (HAC) under the sponsorship of Representative Bill D. Burlison (D., Mo.) Bush said he had not and was surprised to know that Mr. Burlison had a man on that Committee since Mr. Burlison had asked Bush to do some staff work for him on the appropriation aspects of the intelligence budget. Late Friday afternoon, Bush called back to say that he had found out about Barbour. Barbour is a retired Navy captain who has represented Mr. Burlison on HAC since 1973. He keeps Mr. Burlison informed on major national defense issues and most recently was responsible for Mr. Burlison's strong role in the nuclear carrier dispute. But he does not service Mr. Burlison on intelligence matters because the Committee has voted to permit only professional staffers to handle intelligence matters. This situation was recently challenged by Representative Jack Kemp (R., N.Y.) but he lost in a Committee vote. Bush said that some of the staff assistants have compartmented clearances in order to permit them to see intelligence products, but they are not supposed to use these to get into the intelligence budget.

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